

## Loan Campaign Into High Gear

### New Queue Rule In Toronto

Toronto theatres are now required to have a uniformed attendant present whenever a lineup reaches into the street. The Toronto Board of Police Commissioners has added the new regulation, Section 26-A, to By-Law No. 186, which deals with the issuance of

(Continued on Page 2)

### Montreal to Hear 'Socker' Coe

As a sequel to the outstanding success of his maiden speech in Canada, delivered before the Advertising and Sales Club of Toronto a month ago, Charles Francis Coe, vice-president and general counsel of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of

(Continued on Page 5)

### FPC Packs Xmas Box

Famous Players' boys and girls worked late the other night and packed 270 parcels for ex-colleagues in the services.

### WAC Issues Report On Juve Vandalism

Increasing juvenile delinquency in the United States has the government, welfare organizations and theatre men seriously worried and discussions are being held on the subject, with all interested groups participating. Some idea of the general concern can be gathered from the fact that the New York Times recently carried three articles about juvenile misconduct in a single issue. Each article took note of the effect of the state of things on theatres.

Canada suffers no less than the United States from the young and

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### Motion Picture Folk Speed Up Bond Buy-Sell-Boost Drive

Reports reaching the offices of provincial chairmen of the Motion Picture War Services Committee, in charge of the Motion Picture Section of the National War Finance Committee, indicate that film folk have thrown themselves enthusiastically into the Fifth Victory Loan campaign. Realizing that it won't be as easy this time as it was last, exhibitors, managers and exchange people have increased their efforts and the results are proving worthwhile.

### Here's a Good V-Loan Stunt

In Acton, Ontario, a guessing contest was arranged for the public. Idea was to guess the total sale of Victory Bonds on a certain day. Prizes for the nearest guessers were donated by the local merchants.

This contest can be run by any small town theatre.

Several exhibitors have called to boost the Frank Morgan trailer being offered to theatres. The Bing Crosby one drew praise here last week and exhibitors are now cheering their own preferences.

Based on previous experience,  
(Continued on Page 2)

### Alhambra, St. Agathe, Quebec, to Renovate

Luke and Little, Montreal architects, are making plans for a new front, extension and the renovation of the Alhambra Theatre, Ste. Agathe, Quebec. It's a seven-day house seating 300. Population is 3,000.

### Garson in Montreal

Greer Garson was in Montreal on the 27th for the Victory Loan. She just completed "Madame Curie" with Walter Pidgeon.

### Now Prisoners of War

Flight-Sergeant Lloyd Christmas and Flying-Officer Jack Armstrong, both previously reported missing, are prisoners of war. Both were formerly on the staff of the Capitol, Guelph, and met overseas when they were assigned to the same crew from different points.

### Work Week Sliced At Home Offices

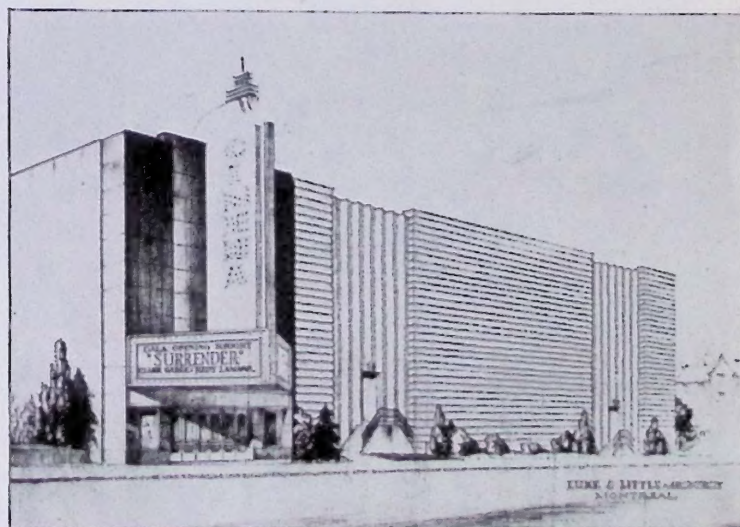
In anticipation of winter transportation handicaps the Toronto head offices of Canadian distribution and theatre organizations have instituted a Monday-to-Friday (inclusive) work week. Offices will be closed for business Saturday morning, operating with

(Continued on Page 2)

### T'Color Diet Reel Will Be Gratis

A very interesting Technicolor two-reel subject will be offered rental-free to all theatres, one that is of special benefit to servicemen and civilians alike. The first print of it has arrived from Hollywood, where it was made at the request of Famous Players

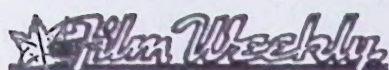
(Continued on Page 5)



A sketch of the new Cinema Theatre now being erected on Harvey Road, St. John's, Newfoundland. It will cost in the vicinity of \$200,000, seat 1,000 and be open in February, 1943.

Audiences across Canada are acclaiming 'CORVETTE K-225' as one of the most thrilling and entertaining motion pictures ever presented on Canadian screens.  
ANOTHER UNIVERSAL HIT





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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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## An Untimely Ruling

The new order of the Toronto Police Commissioners, which requires that the theatre provide a uniformed attendant when lineups reach the street, seems poorly timed. Theatres are short-staffed now and Selective Service won't provide help for this purpose. The street is under police jurisdiction at all times and it is doubtful if people will like being told what to do by anyone with private authority only.

There have been complaints from merchants with businesses adjacent to the theatre about lineups. Certainly these merchants won't accept the crowd arrangement from other than a policeman with expert judgment in such matters. He has the experience and the authority.

It is strange that no such amendment to the by-law dealing with lineups was passed in the days when men were available for any purpose. Coming now, it is a thoughtless order not based on present conditions. Well enough should have been left alone.

It is necessary that theatre attendance be made as easy as possible in order that war messages reach as many as they can. It is agreed everywhere that the theatre provides inspiration, recreation and boosts morale.

Would the Police Commissioners have the people disperse when an attendant can't be spared?

## 'Stalingrad' Big Draw Right At Home

"The City That Stopped Hitler—Heroic Stalingrad," which is being roadshown at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto's legit headquarters, sold out each performance to date. Policy is a two-a-day with 75 cents top.

A Los Angeles war worker, Mrs. Mary Striker, can't find a place to live so she sleeps at the movies every day. If it keeps up theatres will be advertising "Two Big Features—American Plan."

## Victory Loan Start



A scene outside the Midtown Theatre, Toronto, as the Fifth Victory Loan got under way with ceremonies. Phil Wisener, leader of Division B, is shown with a representative of various branches of the armed services. Behind the sign is Al Perly, manager. The Midtown is the headquarters of Team Three, which won the Harper Trophy during the last drive.

## New Queue Rule In Toronto

(Continued from Page 1)

licences.

The theatre is expected to provide a member of its staff for this purpose, Selective Service refusing to allow any additions in personnel to meet the need. An alternative is to employ a city constable to maintain order, a common practice by large theatres. The constable is usually one who takes on the job during his off-hours to earn the extra money. The constable on the beat is forbidden to spend any time on theatre lineups unless something unusual occurs.

The addition to the by-law came as a surprise, theatre managers being puzzled why the Police Commission should place an extra strain on the theatre's limited manpower in such times as these. In the days when additions to the staff was a comparatively easy matter, nothing was done.

The addition states that

"Every licensee of a theatre which is located so as to cause the frequent forming of queues for the purpose of gaining entrance to such theatre shall have a uniformed attendant present whenever such queue is formed, for the purpose of regulating such queue and prohibiting undue obstructions or encumbering of the highway by such queue."

## Starkman, Wagman Buy Granada, Toronto

Max Starkman and Charles Wagman, who between them operate the La Salle, Hudson and Allenby, all in Toronto, are reported to have purchased the building which holds the Granada, Danforth Avenue, now a B&F house.

## British Rentals Bring Threat of Boycott

The Daily Mail of London said last week that United States motion pictures might be boycotted in Britain because of what the trade describes as "extortionate demands" by Hollywood. The newspaper quoted an executive of the Exhibitors' Association as saying that U.S. producers were asking London exhibitors to pay a percentage of receipts—sometimes as high as 50 per cent—for star films. The executive said that if the exhibitors agreed to this condition they then could get other films on a flat-rate basis. The Exhibitors' Association has requested Hugh Dalton, President of the Board of Trade, to take action, the Daily Mail said. More than 75 per cent of the movies shown in Britain come from the United States.

## Work Week Sliced At Home Offices

(Continued from Page 1)

skeleton staffs only.

The daily volume of work will be increased by the measure but will be handled by an extension of the working day, an extra half-hour or 45 minutes being added.

Last winter the strain upon transportation because of the war was aggravated by unusually severe weather. Lateness was common and regular and most offices, being short-staffed as it was, had a hard time keeping going in good order. The reduction of the working week will cut the chances of lateness by one day, at the same time saving the worker transportation costs.

Canadian general managers of the distribution companies certified the move at their last meeting and circuit head offices synchronized their activities with that of the exchanges.

All who have business with the exchanges and circuit head offices will do well to remember the new work week.

## Bond Drive Moves Into High Gear

(Continued from Page 1)

managers have worked out programs with special appeal, yet not directly aimed, and new methods of using the theatre to boost community sales are being tried in a number of places.

In Tillsonburg, Ontario, J. C. Muscow, manager of the Strand, has had Industrial Theatre Parties. The program carries a newsreel, regular cartoon, a Victory Loan cartoon and a sing song, with a break for a speaker.

Another idea is to have employers of various plants club together for a theatre night, to which tickets are free and the Payroll Savings Plan comes in for a boost. This contacting of employees under favorable conditions is proving beneficial.

The personal subscriptions of theatre men and women are very promising at this stage and those of the business houses will be as ample as ever.

*We Will Rent or  
Lease Your  
Theatre  
If Price Is Right*

WRITE TO BOX 17  
**Canadian Film  
Weekly**



**'Top Man'**with Donald O'Connor, Susanna Foster  
Universal 82½ Mins.O'CONNOR DOES IT AGAIN IN  
LIVELY MUSICAL THAT IS SWELL  
FUN FOR THE FAMILY TRADE.

This musical further establishes Donald O'Connor as a Universal gold mine. The younger element will respond enthusiastically to the display of talent put on by the youthful performer, without whose presence the picture would be just another variation of a familiar story. He, Susanna Foster and Peggy Ryan are the whole film. As long as the three are around the customers won't care about anything else.

In this spry, youthful and hilarious entertainment O'Connor is a riot in his attempt to play the head of the family while his father (Richard Dix) is away serving as an officer in the navy. He gets into situation after situation loaded with laughter, tossing lines around with amazing skill and ease. O'Connor wins the admiration of all when he induces his young friends to devote their spare time to working in an airplane factory sadly in need of help. The plant, run by Miss Foster's uncle (Samuel S. Hinds), gets the Army-Navy E, and O'Connor gets official Government recognition for his act of patriotism. The film winds up with a swell show put on by O'Connor and his pals for the entertainment of the factory hands.

The music, of which there is plenty, has been selected to suit the tastes of both jitterbugs and lovers of the better music. Miss Foster, who plays the girl in O'Connor's life, takes care of the demands of the latter group with a selection of numbers that bring out the full beauty of her voice.

O'Connor and the Misses Foster and Ryan (playing O'Connor's kid sister) get excellent backing from Dix, Lillian Gish (O'Connor's ma), Anne Gwynne, David Holt, Noah Beery, Jr. Not to be forgotten are Count Basie and his orchestra and Borrah Minnevit's Harmonica Rascals (minus Minnevit).

Producer Milton Schwarzwald deserves much credit for the film's high status as popular entertainment. Charles Lamont's snappy direction makes "Top Man" extremely zestful diversion.

CAST: Donald O'Connor, Susanna Foster, Lillian Gish, Richard Dix, Peggy Ryan, Anne Gwynne, David Holt, Noah Beery, Jr., Marla Mae Jones, Richard Love, Samuel S. Hinds, Count Basie and orchestra, Borrah Minnevit's Harmonica Rascals.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

**'Holy Matrimony'**with Monty Woolley, Gracie Fields  
20th-Fox 87 Mins.SUPERB COMEDY IS HEADED FOR  
HEAVY TAKES; WOOLLEY, FIELDS,  
MAKE A SUPERLATIVE TEAM.

Chalk up another triumph for 20th-Fox and Nunnally Johnson. In "Holy Matrimony" he has consummated a wedding of the cinematic arts that will bring happiness galore to exhibitor and patron alike. The film, which is pure escapism, should prove one of 20th-Fox's biggest grossers of the year.

With superb cleverness and exemplary skill Johnson has concocted a solid piece of entertainment from the Arnold Bennett novel, "Buried Alive," which was made into a film once before—by Paramount in 1933 under the title "His Double Life." Audiences will revel in the delicious fun purveyed by this comedy, which at times can be as gentle as it is hilarious. The intelligent will get as much diversion out of "Holy Matrimony" as the dyed-in-the-wool fans.

Johnson has assembled a hand-picked cast. In the leading role Monty Woolley again delivers a sock comedy performance. As a famous British painter who tries to escape the inconveniences that go with fame he is a mixture of brusqueness and sentiment.

The story of "Holy Matrimony" is ironic, provocative and out of the ordinary. Woolley returns to his native England to be knighted after secluding himself in the South Seas for a quarter of a century. When his valet (Eric Blore) dies, Woolley's name is entered in the death certificate by mistake. Blore is buried in Westminster Abbey. The painter, eager for peace and quiet, makes no attempt to correct the error. Assuming Blore's identity, he finds what he's after in marriage to Gracie Fields, a widow. Complications arise when Blore's wife turns up. There follows a court session in which Woolley has a tough time convincing the world that he isn't Blore. It takes the presence of two moles on his anatomy to win his case. Of course, the discovery that the chap resting in the Abbey is just a valet creates a sensation.

CAST: Monty Woolley, Gracie Fields, Laird Cregar, Una O'Connor, Alan Mowbray, Melville Cooper, Franklin Pangborn, Ethel Griffies, Eric Blore, George Zucco, Fritz Feld, William Austin, Montagu Love, Richard Fraser, Edwin Maxwell, Leyland Hodgson, Whitner Bissell, Geoffrey Steele, Lumsden Hare, Thomas Louden, Ian Wolfe, Milton Parsons, Alec Craig.

DIRECTION, Fine. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

**'Lady Takes A Chance'**

with Jean Arthur, John Wayne

RKO 88 Mins.

SMART, CLEVER ROMANTIC COMEDY  
SHOULD PROVE A BOX OFFICE  
WOW; ARTHUR, WAYNE RATE  
POSIES.

The exhibitor will be taking no chance with this baby. What he has here is as sure a bet as he could hope for.

In "A Lady Takes a Chance" the theatre man will be getting a sweetheart of a romantic comedy. Every moment of it is vastly entertaining and amusing beyond the ordinary. The highbrow and the lowbrow will obtain equal enjoyment out of it. The appeal for the intelligent filmgoer lies chiefly in the dialogue, which is literate and grown-up.

The film supplies Jean Arthur with another grand opportunity to give full release to her talent—and to exercise that haunting voice of hers. While the role makes demands upon her primarily as a comedienne, there are moments when she can elicit a heart pang as readily and as expertly as a laugh.

The yarn presents Miss Arthur as a New Yorker who finds love out West during a bus tour. The idea of a city working girl and a cowhand falling in love may not sound terrifically original, but the way the story is developed in this instance is unusual, not to say fascinating. The game is played subtly with the cowhand fighting hard but finally falling like a poled steer.

As the cowhand John Wayne turns in a far better job than one would have expected of him. One wouldn't be going overboard in saying it was his best work yet. Miss Arthur and Wayne have an ace supporting cast. Laying considerable claim to attention are Charles Winniger, as Wayne's buddy, and Phil Silvers, as a travel guide. Smaller roles are well taken by Mary Field, Don Costello, Grant Withers, Hans Conreid and Grady Sutton.

Frank Ross has guided the production carefully with the assistance of Associate Producer Richard Ross.

CAST: Jean Arthur, John Wayne, Charles Winniger, Phil Silvers, Mary Field, Don Costello, John Philliber, Grady Sutton, Grant Withers, Hans Conreid, Peggy Carroll, Ariel Heath, Sugar Gelse, Joan Blair, Tom Fadden, Ed Waller, Nina Quartero, Alex Melesh, Cy Kendall, Paul Scott, Charles D. Brown, Butch and Buddy, Three Peppers.

DIRECTION, Fine. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

**'Sahara'**with Humphrey Bogart, Bruce Bennett,  
Lloyd Bridges, Rex Ingram

Columbia 97 Mins.

SWELL MELLER OF ARMORED  
WARFARE IN NORTH AFRICA; STIR-  
RING FARE FOR THE ACTION FANS.

Glorifying the hard-bitten courage of the men in USA tank forces, and stressing the camaraderie of United Nations' soldiery, "Sahara" is a stirring if not a sensational saga of the North African campaign. That it is not sensational makes it all the more moving and impressive, for in its content is found only occasional touches of the Hollywood concept of war. Thus an uncommon degree of realism is achieved.

Its all-male cast, headed by Humphrey Bogart, adds to the credibility of the story, unpunctuated as it is by feminine characters whom most Hollywood filmmakers hold to be essential to audience interest, but whose injection so often detracts from realism. Action is plentiful from the time the American tank commanded by Bogart, operating with the British in the fighting around Tobruk, is cut off by the German advance toward Alexandria and finds itself and crew forced to cut across scores of miles of sandy wastes to establish contact, if possible, with Allied units.

To effect this on a low supply of gas and without adequate water supply for the crew, considerable drama is enlisted via the screenplay, based upon a story by Philip MacDonald derived from an incident in the Soviet photoplay, "The Thirteen." To the original crew of three Americans is added as a consequence of various happenings an Italian prisoner, his captor, a Nazi airman who is shot down after strafing the tank from the air, and several British Empire soldiers. At some desert ruins the group makes a stand against several hundred Germans, and at the climax the latter are routed and many taken prisoner. When the British rescue the valiant defending band, following El Alamein, only two are left.

Cast generally does a good job, and audiences will enjoy the excitement provided by the attraction which is solidly directed by Zoltan Korda.

CAST: Humphrey Bogart, Bruce Bennett, Lloyd Bridges, Rex Ingram, J. Carrol Naish, Dan Duryea, Richard Nugent, Patrick O'Moore, Louis T. Mercier, Carl Harbord, Guy Kingsford, Kurt Krueger, John Wengraf, Hans Schumm.

DIRECTION, Solid. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.





OF CANADA LTD.  
277 Victoria St.  
Toronto

For  
**1943-1944**

### LADY LET'S DANCE

Starring the lovely **BELITA**  
in a gorgeous skating and  
dancing spectacle.

To be followed by a 2nd  
**BELITA** picture as yet un-  
named.

★

**WOMEN  
IN BONDAGE**  
(formerly 'Hitler's Women')  
The degradation of women  
under Nazi rule.

★

### WHERE ARE MY CHILDREN

Youthful waywardness  
laid bare.

★

### GROUND CREW

starring **JACKIE COOPER** in  
a mighty drama supercharged  
with battlefront action.

★

### FIGHTING QUARTERMASTER

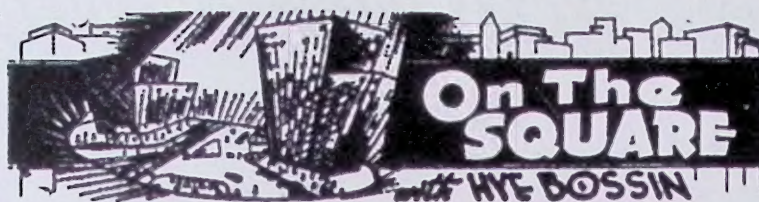
A booming saga of the  
Service of Supply

★

the fastest-growing Company  
in the Industry

**MONOGRAM  
PICTURES**

Toronto Montreal St. John  
Winnipeg Calgary Vancouver



### In Those Days—

Gabbing with the Imperial's Tom Daley about the show scene, past and present, I dredged an interesting story up out of the sea of his experience. It happened in St. John, N.B., Tom's native habitat, when the century was not so old.

In those days a manager never knew what his program was until the train arrived with the fibre film containers, which were tied with leather straps. Nor did the advertising feature the names of any players, the star system being as yet unborn.

Nevertheless, the public had its favorites. One of these was an appealing young lady known to all by the nickname of "Sweet Sixteen" and when a perusal of the print revealed her presence, those two words were placed on the advertising.

One day Walt Golding, now manager of the Capitol, St. John, showed Tom Daley a card from a Mrs. Smith of Toronto, announcing the engagement of her daughter, Gladys.

"Know who that is?" Walt asked Tom.

Tom didn't know.

"Gladys," informed Walt, "is 'Sweet Sixteen'."

It was right after that that "Sweet Sixteen," really Gladys Smith, became known widely as Mary Pickford.

Even that far back there was a yearning for talking pictures, and this brought attempts at appeasement. One of these was the Humanova films, during the showing of which real actors provided voices for the characters from behind the screen.

Humanova films were being shown at Walt Golding's theatre and the other showmen used to gather there to kibitz with the actors. One of their favorites was a young man named Owen Moore. It was this same fellow who was to become the husband of Mary Pickford.

\* \* \*

### Payne's Apt Comment

Lionel W. Payne, who runs the Capitol, Listowel, Ontario, is famed in many corners of the world for his kindness to the boys in the service. His consistent philanthropy, starting in Listowel, has followed the boys around the world and recently he was surprised, while listening to "Regimental Roundup" from Britain, to hear himself thanked by soldiers who had received his gifts.

His gifts to the boys have amounted to \$25,000 to date and he knows just how they feel because he and Mrs. Payne have a boy over there. Both have been the recipients of tokens of gratitude from the community and servicemen.

Some time ago we printed a number of mixed-up titles as voiced by the public and Payne offered a personally humorous one when talking with him the other day. He is a big man with a limp that resulted from Infantile Paralysis as a boy.

"Will you be getting 'The Constant Limp'?" a patron asked Payne.

"I don't have to," he laughed. "I've had it all my life!"

\* \* \*

### 15th Milestone for the Syd Roths

Mr. and Mrs. Syd Roth celebrated their fifteenth wedding anniversary last week with the help of many friends, among them a goodly collection of film folk.

Syd is a supervisor at 20th Century Theatres. A graduate pharmacist who maintained a number of stores until he sold out to minister to theatres instead, he is popular in the trade and this publication adds its congrats to the many received.

Syd, as even-tempered a fellow as you would care to meet, is proof that a soft answer turneth away Roth. His soft answers induce the same feeling.

Mrs. Roth is a daughter of Jake Smith.

## Pioneer Offers 15 Strong Reissues

Fifteen reissues of films which enjoyed strong business during their original periods of release were announced by Pioneer Films Limited last week. They are open to immediate booking.

Six of the total number offered were formerly United Artists releases for David O. Selznick, who produced them. These are "A Star Is Born," with Fredric March, Janet Gaynor and Adolph Menjou; "The Young in Heart," starring Paulette Goddard and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.; "Made for Each Other," with James Stewart and Carole Lombard; "Little Lord Fauntleroy," with Mickey Rooney and Fred Bartholomew; "Nothing Sacred," with Fredric March and Carole Lombard; and "Becky Sharp," with Miriam Hopkins and Sir Cedric Hardwicke.

Features produced by MGM and now offered by Pioneer are "Topper," with Cary Grant, Constance Bennett and Roland Young; "Merrily We Live," with Constance Bennett, Brian Aherne and Bonita Granville; and six Laurel and Hardy comedies.

The public has shown a revived interest in Laurel and Hardy lately and the six feature-length comedies being offered by Pioneer contain some of their most popular efforts. Titles of the Laurel and Hardy offerings are "Son of the Desert," "Bohemian Girl," "Swiss Miss," "Blockheads," "Way Out West" and "Our Relations."

## USA Exhib Outfits Argue 30% Impost

Present exhibitor tax situation is now reminiscent of Canada when the federal amusement tax came up.

Executives of Allied and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners are arguing with the Treasury. Before the Ways and Means committee Abram F. Myers, Ed Kuykendall and William F. Crockett are claiming that the threatened 30 per cent tax would ruin small exhibitors.

## Metro Goes After Year's Best Book

An annual award of \$100,000, plus an additional royalty of 20 cents on each copy above 50,000 sold, will be paid to the author of the "best book of the year," by Metro, it was announced last week. In addition, the publisher of the book will receive \$25,000. The film rights to the book will go to Metro.

Winning book of the Award of the Year will be chosen by a specially designated board of experts, and the plan will be put into effect in the spring of 1944.



## Montreal to Hear 'Socker' Coe

(Continued from Page 1)

America, Inc., will play a return engagement, in Montreal this time, with the Advertising and Sales Executives Club of that city sponsoring his appearance.

Arrangements are under the direction of Murray R. Chipman, manager of the Montreal office of the MacLean Publishing Company, and chairman of the Speakers Committee of the club. Upon hearing of the phenomenal success of the Toronto event, Chipman made a special trip to New York and personally invited Coe to appear at a luncheon before his club in Montreal on October 27th.

As was the case in Toronto, the film industry in Montreal and the Province of Quebec will be well represented. Film Row is expected to turn out at least 150 guests. Meetings were held by both the Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries, and the Montreal Film Board of Trade, each body agreeing to dispose of a maximum block of tickets. Arthur Hirsch, president of Consolidated Theatres, presided at the meeting of Q.A.T.I., and H. F. Taylor, president of the Film Board, was in charge of that gathering. A crowd of 400 is expected to attend the luncheon.

While Coe's talk will be along the same general line as his maiden Canadian speech, delivered under the title of "A New World Challenges the Screen," it will not duplicate his Toronto address, and any who may have heard him at the Royal York Hotel will find new interest in what he will say before the Montreal Advertising and Sales Executive Club luncheon in the Jacques Cartier Room of the Mount Royal Hotel at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 27th.

Coe will arrive in Montreal from New York early Wednesday morning, the day of the luncheon, and will meet the press for interviews at the Mount Royal Hotel. He will be accompanied by George Borthwick, treasurer of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, and will be preceded by Arthur DeBra, head of the research department of the organization, who will reach Montreal on Monday.

The Club's head table will include an imposing array of Montreal celebrities prominent in the civic, political, cultural and religious life of the city, and there will be a table devoted exclusively to the distaff side of Montreal, giving special attention to women prominent in club, civic and war-time activities.

## Mgr. Mary Palangio Shows 'Em How

The Timmins, Ontario, Press carried an interesting story recently about Mary Palangio, manager of the Goldfields Theatre of that town. Jim Hornick, reporter of that paper, did right well by Miss Palangio. What appears below is Hornick's interview from the Timmins Press:

Women, before the war, were considered omens of ill-luck and tragedy aboard ships and in gold mines. By the same token, the theatre industry never accorded women any particular recognition. But here in Timmins, with most of the community's manpower in uniform and a large proportion in war industries a history-making precedent has been set. A woman has been appointed to manage the town's oldest operating theatre.

Mary Palangio, a Timmins resident of five years duration and an employee of Timmins Theatres Limited since her arrival here in 1938, has been given the manager-ship of the Goldfields Theatre on what General Manager Frank Colameco terms a "war service basis."

The peacetime manager of the Third avenue cinema, Herb Nelson, is on active service with the Canadian Army. "Upon cessation of hostilities," Mr. Colameco stated, "we expect Mr. Nelson to return and once more take over the managerial reins of the theatre."

Miss Palangio, in the meantime, is doing what her employers have called "a very efficient job." Seated at a desk in the business office of the Goldfields Theatre the dark-haired executive, originally a native of North Bay, directs the trade and supervises the staff of one of the town's busiest movie houses.

"I like my work," Miss Palangio remarked. "And I don't find it particularly hard." Going first to the Palace Theatre five years ago the female theatre manager was employed until two months ago as a cashier.

With nearly ten years experience behind her as cashier of the T. Eaton Company's North Bay groceries and several months as cashier at the North Bay branch of the Canadian Department Stores, directors of Timmins Theatres Limited, a division of the

Toronto theatrical concern Famous Players, felt Miss Palangio was sufficiently able and qualified to handle one of the most trying, exacting positions in the motion picture business—that of a theatre manager.

Miss Palangio was born in North Bay and spent most of her life in the Gateway City before coming to the Porcupine Camp. She attended public school and high school in that centre and completed a commercial course at St. Joseph's Academy.

In a completely business-like office, with a desk littered with tools of the trade—pencils, erasers, ledgers, telephones, rulers, scissors and all the other paraphernalia which distinguishes the den of a hardworker—Mary Palangio is on the job for her daily eight hours, directing a lost-and-found department for the benefit of forgetful patrons and endeavoring to supply the maximum in entertainment and comfort for the hundreds who frequent the Goldfields.

"There was a time, and not so long ago at that," General Manager Colameco remarked, "when most theatre work was entrusted to males. But the war has affected the theatre business in the same way it has affected other entertainment mediums. We have had to use girls where and when men were not available. And we have found them to be equally if not more efficient than men."

Mr. Colameco said experience in Timmins has proven girl ushers to be as capable and perhaps more courteous than males. "The theory that males are superior to females has been shattered here," he remarked.

## T'Color Diet Reel Will Be Gratis

(Continued from Page 1)

Canadian Corporation, and it is reported to have great curiosity value.

The subject deals with the everyday diet of soldiers and civilians, showing what foods yield the things most necessary for a healthy body. Back of the subject is a story.

J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players, leader of the Canadian motion picture war effort, saw a 16 mm. subject made for the RCAF in Kodachrome by Dr. F. F. Tisdall, wing commander, and was so struck by its value to all that he offered to have his company remake it in 35 mm. and show it to the civilian public.

The request was granted. Famous Players is paying for the production, Paramount will distribute free and the exhibitor will get it with no rental charge. Some comment by C. G. Power, air minister, has been added.

The film shows what ordinary restaurant and home foods can be easily changed for other items that provide more health and energy, both vital to the spirit and effort of the public.

Make time for this film. It's important and interesting, as well as having eye appeal.

## USA Film Bond Sale \$1,079,586,819

The above figure represents the sale of bonds by the Hollywood Cavalcade and other motion picture mediums during the recent Third War Loan in the United States, according to L. G. Griffith, general chairman for the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry.

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## Army Show Offered

Basic Training No. 20 has an hour-long army show of Cwacs and troopers that can be booked by regular theatres, according to Keith Wilson. He and Billy O'Connor produced the show.



## RKO Production Tickles Depinet

Ned E. Depinet, RKO president, recently returned from the coast, was greatly enthused over the company's coming product at a trade press interview last week.

Said Depinet, "I have never had a more satisfying trip to the studio . . . the pictures coming out of the studio are as good as any."

Referring to coming product releases, Depinet announced that the latest Pat O'Brien vehicle, "The Iron Major," had a big premiere in New England on Oct. 26, and that this film will try to be sold throughout the country before the expiration of the football season.

Forty pictures will be the average for the 1943-44 season, with a similar amount in the offing for the 44-45 period. RKO will continue to show product in groups of five, according to Depinet, since the company believes thus will exhibitors receive fair treatment.

"Frank Sinatra will be bigger in pictures than on the air," said the RKO executive, as he outlined the plot of "Higher and Higher," Sinatra vehicle, which will be released sometime around Christmas. In Depinet's words: "It will do one hell of a business."

Other coming RKO products are: "Tender Comrade," starring Ginger Rogers; "Government Girl," with Sonny Tufts; "North Star," made by Sam Goldwyn; "Up In Arms," also a Goldwyn production, slated for release early next year; "Let's Go Latin," from the Disney studios, a full-length feature, where animated characters and live characters mix it up, and which will be released in February or March; and "Around the World," the Kay Kyser film.

Two films are expected from England, "Yellow Canary," starring Richard Greene, and "Escape to Danger," with Ann Dvorak, according to the present product schedule.

## Seating Rule Dropped In Nova Scotia

The Provincial Government of Nova Scotia has gone over the heads of the censors and eliminated the order calling for 32 inches back to back on all theatre seats. The Allied Exhibitors have protested strongly against this and many regulations of the censor board but no attention has been paid to the complaints until the insurance agents handling theatre risks joined in the protests.

It has been pointed out that with most of the theatres in Nova Scotia in buildings erected many years ago, it has been impossible to comply with the 32 inches demand of the censors.

## WAC Worried by Juve Vandalism

(Continued from Page 1)

undisciplined rowdies who crash the gate, slash seats, remove everything loose, provoke fights, annoy other patrons and deface walls. Theatres are the main targets for their mischief. On this side of the border, according to figures released by Ottawa a few weeks ago, the convictions per 100,000 population were 101 in 1942 as against 67 in 1939.

Dr. Kenneth Rogers, general secretary of the Big Brother Movement, on examining the figures, said that the state was responsible because no concrete attempts at solution have been undertaken to deal with a situation which grew out of wartime working methods. The figures showed that Ontario and Quebec, the two most industrialized provinces in the Dominion, were affected more than the others.

He suggested that provincially organized systems of family courts with juvenile divisions under trained probation officers would help. "This is a minimum requirement," he said, "and our obvious first step if we are going to be at all serious about doing something in the way of treatment in connection with juvenile delinquency problems." A broad educational policy, centrally directed for the whole of Canada, would help. Adequate and suitable recreation, he stated, was a fundamental requirement of healthy childhood.

The War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry has provided the USA Office of War Information with a report, part of which reads:

"A popular form of juvenile vandalism in theatres is setting fires. Boys slip cigarettes from the balcony to the lower floor and throw lighted matches into the paper towel containers in the rest rooms. More serious is the practice of ripping open theatre seats, stuffing burning cigarettes into the slashed upholstery and leaving them to smolder, flaring into flame after the theatre has closed for the night. California has had serious trouble of this sort. A Berkeley theatre had a \$35,000 fire. Attendants at an Oakland movie house put out smoldering fires on four successive nights. Many exhibitors throughout the State have hired after-hour fire watchers."

Another eye-opening revelation of the report, which was based on information supplied the OWI by the motion picture industry War Activities Committee, is that "gangs of movie thieves" are operating in some cities. "One Philadelphia theatre," it stated, "reported such a gang led by a six-year-old boy who crawled un-

der seats, opened purses in the dark, and pocketed the contents. This band of youngsters eluded police until the leader appeared at the ticket counter with two five-year-old girls and a \$5 bill."

In an effort to counteract this situation, the WAC, in conjunction with child welfare organizations, has under consideration a plan for the formation of a chain of boys' clubs throughout the country. The youthful members, who would apparently constitute an unofficial police force, would take a pledge and receive badges and buttons. This activity, under proper guidance, would be effected through co-operation of neighborhood theatres.

Some small towns have reportedly adopted curfews to keep youths off the streets after dark, thus making it unlawful for them to attend theatres unless accompanied by parents or a guardian. Theatre owners are, however, making some headway in correcting the situation by directing appeals to local civic organizations and clubs.

Older boys who are well behaved have protested against blanket curfew and are offering to assist in any way they can to curb delinquency.



"Same old stuff—2 features—one piperoo—one stinkeroo," this San Francisco exhibitor confesses candidly.

## If It Isn't One Thing It's—

The Strand Theatre, Prince Albert, British Columbia, had a mighty busy few days recently and the boys are beginning to hold their breaths and wonder what next.

In the same week that the theatre company which runs the Strand was charged with offering to violate the WPTB ceiling on admissions a fire broke out in the projection room.

The company is charged with having offered to sell to Arthur A. Ball of Prince Albert, at or about 6:30 p.m. on the evening of May 17, 1943, two children's tickets for admission to the Strand Theatre at the price of 45 cents each child, this price being in excess of the price established for that location in that theatre for the basic period, contrary to regulations of the wartime prices and trade board. J. H. Lindsay, K.C., is appearing for the prosecution and C. S. Davis, K.C., is defence counsel.

The day before the case was due to be tried a fire broke out in the projection room which was quickly controlled. Damage was light. The audience left in an orderly manner.

## Latin American Market Booming

Expansion of film business in Latin America after the war as a result of the anticipated commercial development of that territory was forecast recently by A. L. Pratchett, Paramount's Central America manager. A member of the Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs Committee for Mexico, he makes his headquarters in Mexico City and also has the West Coast of South America under his supervision.

The present cordial relations between North and South America, particularly between the film industries of both continents, will continue on a firm basis after the war, Pratchett predicted at a conference in New York with Paramount foreign department officials.

Extension of airlines is opening hitherto inaccessible interiors, the commercial development of which will provide a new source of revenue for the film industry and further strengthen the position of distributors in Latin America in the post-war period, he said.

Pratchett reported that Mexican producers are experimenting with superimposed English subtitles with the aim of expanding their North American market.



## Films Via Telev'n Okay in New York

Motion pictures projected on home sets through television have been found worthwhile and will be placed on a regular schedule arranged for military hospitals. The National Broadcasting Company television channels started reaching into hospitals in the New York area on October 25th and over one of these will go two hours of motion pictures, from 8 to 10 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays.

At least one television set will be installed in each hospital in the New York area and these will present sports, civilian training films and sports events. Because no sets have been manufactured since the USA went to war NBC officials turned in their personal receivers for hospital use. CBS is bearing all expenses.

The first television program showed the rodeo at Madison Square Gardens on October 25, with George Putnam, news commentator, acting as master of ceremonies. Track meets, basketball games and hockey will get regular presentation.

Philadelphia and Schenectady stations will pick up the New York broadcasts for rebroadcast in the areas served by them.

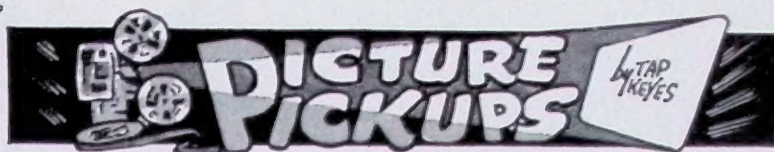
Scophony Corporation of America recently announced that its television would be ready for immediate use in large screen theatres, homes and halls as soon as the war ended. It admitted that the existence of alternative methods removed the menace of monopoly. Paramount and 20th Century-Fox are both tied up with Scophony and other film companies are known to be interested in rival corporations.

Canadian documentaries are being televised on a large scale. CBS has already televised National Film Shorts, among them being "Road to Tokyo," "Hot Ice," "Forward Commandos," "Mask of Nippon" and "Quebec, Path of Conquest."

The New York schedule is a peep at things to come in the entertainment world.

## Ask for British News

The subexecutive of the Local Council of Women, meeting in Toronto last week, urged that larger theatres present more British newsreels.



## Sketches in Sulphuric Acid—No. 4

These press releases were written by a movie publicity man while suffering from Acute Blurbitis, a condition resulting from slow saccharine seepage. The effect of Acute Blurbitis is violent revulsion, leading to reversal of customary conduct. The publicity man has now fully recovered and is back in line but his soul, in the form of these uninhibited expressions, goes marching on. The persons and events depicted herein are fictitious and any resemblance to living persons is purely coincidental—except in such cases where someone recognizes himself and is foolish enough to admit it by getting mad publicly.

### PRODUCER

Napoleon Klainer, chief of production at Elba Studios, announces that "Be Gentle, My Love," which stars Gedilla Delamour, is nearing completion. This great film is being shot in the commissary, a hamburger stand, because the lot is too crowded. He found it more profitable to rent the space to a used car dealer waiting for the war to end.

Prints of Elba's last picture, "Hold Back the Yawn," were bought by the Royal Canadian Air Force and dropped on Berlin, causing Hitler to protest against the frightful tactics.

"Be Gentle, My Love," the Elba chief states, "will be an example of Hollywood conservation these days." It is being shot with a pre-war Brownie camera and will be projected on the screen through some magic lanterns that were found when the Los Angeles River dried up last year. It will be sold to theatres by hawkers peddling razor blades, rubber goods and needles as their regular lines.

Klainer expects to make enough from the picture to buy a new truss, his general living expenses being defrayed as usual by his brother, a presser in the Bronx, who says there's no plague like home when Nap is around.

The Klainer story is a rats-to-riches one. Many remember when he didn't have one particle of intelligence to rub against another. Those who know him say that success hasn't changed him one whit. He is a simple man with a simple philosophy.

"I always preach that honesty is the best policy," he says. (It helps disarm the neighbors and ripen them for plucking.) "Do someone good every day," is another of his precepts. (He does.) His labor relations are beyond criticism, he feels. "When casting female roles," he explains, "I try to make sure that everything is fair to both sides by using a starter's gun."

The legendary "Klainer touch," when not prescribed by screen writers, can be recognized in that familiar shot of piglets busy at a teat-a-teat. This is his idea of a really big scene.

Elba does not represent Klainer's complete production interests. He is a partner in Epitome Films as a result of keeping quiet the information that the president of that company is in the USA illegally. Elba, which Klainer owns outright, is bankrolled by Elsa van Doodle, a rowdy-dowdy dowager who went for him hook, line and stinker and can't quit for fear that Nap will turn out to be a cad.

Klainer, self-unemployed until then, got into the film business to avoid being charged with vagrancy when California, during the depression, was chasing those who proved that they were sub-humans by being broke. He announced himself to be a producer because (1) anybody can call himself a producer since no one knows what a producer does and (2) a producer isn't expected to produce. The American Lexicographer's Association, in 45 years, has never been able to agree on a definition of the word as applied to films.

He reached Hollywood in a cattle car, the hapless beasts being only too glad to give him as much room as possible. Klainer likes California because it costs too much to extradite him to New York—and New York is satisfied with things as they are now. And anyway, there are a couple of boys in Gotham waiting to put all his brains in one basket.

His next production will be made with his partner at Epitome. It will be called "Life Begins at 60—Per Cent." Distribution will be handled by the unjailed members of "Murder, Inc."



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The Canadian Film Weekly is Canada's liveliest and most informative trade paper. It covers Canada's film front for you from week to week.

Our ANNUAL CHRISTMAS ISSUE is now in preparation. You may care to greet your friends in the trade through it at the most optimistic Christmas since the war began. Things don't run as smoothly as they used to, so help us by getting your copy into our hands soon.